

Message Text

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ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 EB-08 COME-00 TRSE-00 OPIC-06 XMB-04
CIAE-00 PM-04 H-02 INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-02
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TO SECSTATE WASHDC 822
SECDEF WASHDC
INFO USMISSION NATO
USCINCEUR
USNMR SHAPE

UNCLAS LONDON 2944

E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: MPOL, UK, NATO, AWACS
SUBJECT: UK TRADE UNIONS AND AWACS

REF: A. LONDON 2643, B. LONDON 2180

1. ACCORDING TO THE DAILY TELEGRAPH OF 18 FEBRUARY, THE AMALGAMATED UNION OF ENGINEERING WORKERS (AUEW) HAS MADE VERY STRONG REPRESENTATIONS TO MOD AND THE DEPARTMENT OF INDUSTRY VIGOROUSLY OPPOSING UK SUPPORT FOR AWACS AS NATO AEW SOLUTION. THE AUEW IS, IN THIS INSTANCE, BEING STRONGLY SUPPORTED BY UK AEROSPACE AND ELECTRONIC INDUSTRY ASSOCIATIONS, HAWKER SIDDELEY, MARCONI ELLIOTT, AND A GOODLY NUMBER OF MP'S.

2. AUEW ACCUSED THE GOVERNMENT OF BOWING TO US PRESSURE AND OF TRYING TO FOIST BOEING AWACS OF RAF. AUEW'S PUBLIC STATEMENT SAID, IN PART, "IF NIMROD IS STOPPED IN FAVOR OF BUYING AMERICAN THE RESULT COULD BE CATASTROPHIC, NOT ONLY FOR EMPLOYMENT BUT BY DROPPING OUT OF ADVANCED ELECTRONICS AND HANDING IT
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TO THE US ON A PLACE. . . BUYING BRITISH CREATES ABOUT 7000 JOBS AND SUB-CONTRACTING TO BOEING WOULD MEAN ABOUT 450 JOBS AMONG ALL THE NATO COUNTRIES IN EUROPE."

3. COMMENT: WE CAN EXPECT A MOUNTING CRESCENDO IN THE POPULAR PRESS OVER THE NEXT FEW WEEKS ATTACKING AWACS AND SUPPORTING NIMROD. MOD'S ABILITY TO HOLD FAST BE-

HIND MULLEY'S PUBLICLY-ANNOUNCED SUPPORT FOR A NATO
SYSTEM WILL BE PUT TO A STRENUOUS TEST. ALREADY
THE WHITEHALL CORRIDOR RUMOR MILL HAS IT THAT MULLEY
WILL BREAK UNDER THE MOUNTING PRESSURE AND OPT FOR
NIMROD IN APRIL -- USING THE INABILITY OF SOME NATO
COUNTRIES (READ FRG) TO AGREE ON AWACS AS THE COMPELLING
PRETEST FOR "GOING BRITISH." ARMSTRONG

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Message Attributes

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Copy: SINGLE
Sent Date: 18-Feb-1977 12:00:00 am
Decaption Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Decaption Note:
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Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
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Disposition Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
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